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## SHORT COMMUNICATION

The 'pondweed' leafhopper Macrosteles (= Erotettix) cyane (Boheman) (Cicadellidae) rediscovered in Surrey.—Kirby (1992, A Review of the Scarce and Threatened Hemiptera of Great Britain, JNCC) notes that M. cyane was known from only four localities in the U.K.; Epping Forest in Essex, Dallington Forest in Sussex, and Holmwood and Fifield (sic?) in Surrey, and lists it as RDBK. On 10.x.2002, I found it in numbers on a pond at Newdigate Brickpits, Surrey (TQ2042). Adults and nymphs were abundant on a large raft of Potamogeton natans L. growing in a large pond dug into clay. The pool was ca. 60 m  $\times$  15 m in area with a maximum depth of 1.5 m. The eastern half of the pond surface was covered in P. natans, whilst the western half was open and unvegetated. The M. cyane were most numerous furthest away from the shore on the densest rafts of pondweed, which were only accessible in chest waders. Here they were accompanied by Mesovelia furcata Mulsant & Rey (Hem: Mesoveliidae), Gerris argentatus Schummel (Hem: Gerridae), Donacia versicolorea (Brahm) (Col: Chrysomelidae) and various Diptera (dolichopodids and ephydrids). The Notable Aquarius (= Gerris) paludum (Fabricius) was abundant on the open water areas. The most curious occupant of one raft was a crab spider Xysticus cristatus (Clerck) (Thomisidae), which was over 5 m from the shore but moving around and stalking Diptera with little concern for its somewhat precarious existence. Pirata praticus (Clerck) (Lycosidae) were also present but were more accustomed to living above water, and were accomplished film walkers.

Previous records suggest the bug is associated with small water bodies. This is not the case at Newdigate, but the pond was somewhat sheltered by clay banks and trees and not heavily affected by wave action. The hoppers were accomplished at landing and taking off from the surface film when driven from the pondweed leaves, and were tricky to capture. Both nymphs and adult males were a very distinctive blue colour, but this was in the form of a powdery bloom, which was rapidly lost on captive specimens, and in the setting process. This powdery coating may help waterproof the bugs. The surface beneath this bloom is a very dark blue colour. Adults were much more numerous than nymphs (*ca.* 10:1).

Newdigate is only a couple of kilometres south of Holmwood, so it is possible that the species has had a continuous presence in the area.—J. S. DENTON, 2 Sandown Close, Alton, Hants GU34 2TG.